

“A TRIBUTE TO ETERNITY” BY HANS ZIMMER AND PROFESSOR BRIAN COX PERFORMED LIVE BY AN ORCHESTRA FOR THE FIRST TIME

Schaffhausen/London, 2nd August 2024: “A Tribute to Eternity”, a piece of music created in collaboration by Academy Award®-winning film score composer Hans Zimmer and the renowned physicist Professor Brian Cox, has been performed live by an orchestra for the first time. Earlier this year, the duo collaborated to create music inspired by the Swiss luxury watch manufacturer’s new Portugieser collection and the Portugieser Eternal Calendar. The orchestral performance took place at the Royal Opera House in London during Brian Cox’s live show “Symphonic Horizons” featuring the Britten Sinfonia conducted by Daniel Harding.

At Watches and Wonders 2024, IWC Schaffhausen introduced its new Portugieser collection and the Portugieser Eternal Calendar. Building on its comprehensive expertise in developing mechanical calendars, the Swiss luxury watch manufacturer’s first secular perpetual calendar automatically takes into account the complex leap-year exception rules of the Gregorian calendar. It also features a moon phase display with a world-record-breaking accuracy of more than 45 million years. To present this marvel of engineering and craftsmanship, IWC embarked on a collaboration with Academy Award®-winning music composer Hans Zimmer and renowned physicist Professor Brian Cox, one of the foremost scientific communicators. In what marked a rare collaboration between a music composer and a scientist, the unlikely duo exchanged ideas about art, science and time. Inspired by the unique perspectives shared by Brian Cox, Hans Zimmer composed “A Tribute to Eternity”, reflecting the beauty and timeless nature of the Portugieser. Now, for the first time, the music has been played live by a full orchestra.

PERFORMANCE AT THE PRESTIGIOUS ROYAL OPERA HOUSE IN LONDON

The orchestral premiere of “A Tribute to Eternity” took place in London, where Brian Cox is currently performing “Symphonic Horizons” at the Royal Opera House. The string of eight nights at this venue marks the first time Brian Cox has taken his critically acclaimed show to the UK. Bringing together extraordinary imagery with some of the greatest orchestral music ever written, Brian Cox examines cosmic ideas and creates the links between cosmology and music composed by Gustav Mahler, Richard Strauss and Jean Sibelius. “Symphonic Horizons” features the Britten Sinfonia orchestra conducted by Daniel Harding, one of the most recognised British conductors of our times. The audience witnessed a passionate live performance of “A Tribute to Eternity”, which beautifully brought out the characteristic attributes of Hans Zimmer’s composing style. Before the performance, Brian Cox shared some insights into his conversation with Hans Zimmer with the audience and introduced the piece.

“A Tribute to Eternity” is available on Spotify [here](#).

ABOUT BRIAN COX

Brian is Professor of Particle Physics at the University of Manchester, The Royal Society Professor for Public Engagement in Science and a Fellow of the Royal Society. Brian is widely recognised as the foremost communicator for all things scientific, having presented a number of highly acclaimed science programmes for the BBC watched by billions internationally including 'Adventures in Space and Time' (2021), 'Universe' (2021), 'The Planets' (2018), 'Forces of Nature' (2016), 'Human Universe' (2014), 'Wonders of Life' (2012), 'Wonders of the Universe' (2011) and 'Wonders of the Solar System' (2010). He also co-hosted popular astronomy and cosmology series 'Stargazing Live' with Dara O'Briain (and for ABC in Australia, with Julia Zemiro) and award-winning BBC Radio 4 series 'Infinite Monkey Cage', which has gone on to become one of the UK's most popular podcasts. As an author, Brian has also sold over a million books worldwide including 'Black Holes', 'Universal: A Guide to the Cosmos', 'Quantum Universe' and 'Why Does $E=mc^2$?' with co-author Professor Jeffrey Forshaw.

Brian has undertaken several sell-out live world tours, setting several Guinness World Records, including for the biggest selling science tour – a record he himself broke with his most recent worldwide tour, 'Horizons', which took in venues in the UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong and across Europe and was performed to hundreds of thousands of people across the world.

ABOUT HANS ZIMMER

Hans Zimmer has scored more than 200 projects across every medium and has been honoured with two Academy Awards®, three Golden Globes®, three Grammys®, an American Music Award, and a Tony® Award. Work highlights include the scores for Dune, No Time to Die, Gladiator, The Thin Red Line, As Good as It Gets, Rain Man, The Dark Knight trilogy, Inception, Thelma and Louise, The Last Samurai, 12 Years A Slave, Blade Runner 2049 (co-scored with Benjamin Wallfisch) and Dunkirk, as well as recent film scores including Wonder Woman 1984, Ron Howard's Hillbilly Elegy and The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge on the Run. In 2019, Zimmer also scored the live-action remake of The Lion King, for which he received a Grammy® nomination for Best Score Soundtrack for Visual Media.

IWC SCHAFFHAUSEN

IWC Schaffhausen is a leading Swiss luxury watch manufacturer based in Schaffhausen in the north-eastern part of Switzerland. With collections like the Portugieser and the Pilot's Watches, the brand covers the whole spectrum from elegant to sports watches. Founded in 1868 by the American watchmaker and engineer Florentine Ariosto Jones, IWC is known for its unique engineering approach to watchmaking, combining the best of human craftsmanship and creativity with cutting-edge technology and processes.

Over its more than 150-year history, IWC has earned a reputation for creating professional instrument watches and functional complications, especially chronographs and calendars, which are ingenious, robust, and easy for customers to use. A pioneer in the use of titanium and ceramics, IWC today specialises in highly engineered watch cases manufactured from advanced materials, such as coloured ceramics, Ceratanium®, and titanium aluminide.

A leader in sustainable luxury watchmaking, IWC sources materials responsibly and takes action to minimise its impact on the environment. Along the pillars of transparency, circularity, and responsibility, the brand crafts timepieces built to last for generations and continuously improves every element of how it manufactures, distributes, and services its products in the most responsible way. IWC also partners with organisations that work globally to support children and young people.

DOWNLOADS

Images of the live performance of "A Tribute to Eternity" at the Royal Opera House can be downloaded free of charge from press.iwc.com

FURTHER INFORMATION

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